

From the Richmond Dispatch.

The Position.

Our people have been spoiled so thoroughly by the constant succession of victories that have marked the progress of the war, that they are impatient that they be not even the appearance of a reverse with the patience then we had a right to expect from the same men whose noble fortitude, at a time when our city was actually beleaguered by the enemy, made them the admiration of the world. It is proper, then, to institute an examination of the position of the army at the present time, to ascertain what real ground there may be for discouragement in the present state of affairs.

It appears, then, that on Sunday, 14th September, the corps of D. H. Hill was attacked by the entire force of the enemy, and that, after an obstinate resistance, one wing was forced to give up the position, and that the fighting as it fell back, and was never routed; that it was reinforced by Longstreet, recovered all it had lost, and slept upon the field of battle; that Gen. Lee having come up, recovered the position, and took a position in the rear of the army; that on Monday, 15th September, the day was spent in cannonading at long tow; that on Wednesday a general battle was fought, in which Gen. Lee obtained a decided advantage; and that on Thursday evening, finally, at his leisure, he withdrew his entire army to Potomac, and that on Friday, 16th September, the enemy. This last fact is sufficient to prove that he could not at least have been very badly beaten; for the Yankee papers, anticipating such a movement, proclaimed in advance that he would certainly be destroyed by attempting to do so.

But, these facts do not show that he has no

means withdrew because he was beaten. A young officer who was in the battle of Wednesday, and who came to this city Sunday in charge of the remains of Gen. Starke, who was killed, says that our army spent the night of Wednesday in the trenches, and was prepared to attack the enemy next morning; but when morning came he was nowhere to be seen. He had abandoned all his positions and left for parts unknown. Not a man was to be seen. Scouts sent out in various directions, were unable to procure any tidings of him. It was not until the morning of Friday that we had any effect. It was evident, then, that he had gone off in the night. Had either sneaked off Berkeley level or had withdrawn to operate on some other portion of our line. Gen. Lee believed he had passed his flank, and that he was endeavoring to get to the rear of his troops. He resolved to anticipate him, and to

fell back to position on this side of the river, where he is prepared to thwart any movement he may attempt to make. Surely, there is nothing like a check, far less a defeat, in all this. On the contrary, it is evident that the victory is complete. The British are in the defensive. The enemy tried a whole day to drive us from our position. He utterly failed. We held our position, and slept on the ground, ready to renew the contest the next day.

But no more was made attempts to drive us from our position, but abandoned his own in the night, with every appearance of having despaired of beating us. It was a renewal of the incidents recorded at the battle of Monmouth in the revolutionary war, when our troops slept on their arms, and found the British gone in the morning. At Monmouth, the British were not so much as American veterans. Our total loss in the battle is

set down at 5,000 probably an exaggerated estimate, which would cover the entire casualties from Sunday to Wednesday night inclusive. That of the enemy is greater. It should not be omitted that McClellan left his dead and wounded behind him—a sure proof that he was defeated.

Our people are disappointed because we did not gain a victory as decisive as those around Richmond and at Manassas. The question here is service, 420,000 men. It should be recalled that the great object of the operations in Maryland was the capture of the Yankes army of the Valley. That object was triumphantly accomplished. The whole army fell into our hands—420,000 men, 100,000 horses, 400 guns, 400,000 pieces of cannon, an enormous quantity of ammunition, 200 wagons, 1,800 horses, and 1,000 runaway negroes

It should also be remembered, that this capture was effected, in spite of the attempts of McClellan, with his whole force, to prevent it. Surely, it must be a very interesting man who would require greater credit from the operations of ten days. They are among the most brilliant of which we have any account, in any part of the world. They incomparably surpass the boasted achievement of Fort Donelson, over which Ulysses Grant achieved absolutely nothing, while a number of prisoners were taken. Fort Donelson was easily taken by the Chicago Times—would excite greater credit. The lying Yan- kees claimed 15,000.

Master Most Fool.

A correspondent of the Memphis (Grenada) Appeal, writing from DeSoto county, Miss., September 9th, terms it a glorious

Night before last one hundred and fifty Federal cavalry passed on their way from Memphis to Hernando, which they reached yesterday at daybreak. Of their deeds there we know little, except that having arrested, they were detailed a guard of sixteen to take them to Memphis.

When about midway between the two places, a little north of Wm. White's, at 2 p. m., they were attacked by a Confederate picket of 8 or 9 men. In the skirmish a Federal lieutenant and one of the prisoners were killed. The remainder of the guard got safe to Memphis, leaving all their prisoners behind.

In the evening, 28 Mr. White and his two nearest neighbors were making preparations to bury the dead on Mr. White's plantation, a carload passed, and those in it (there) to take the remains of the lieutenant to his home.

cepted. Near sunset a body of sixty or seventy cavalry under the orders, it is said, of Connells Morgan and Smith, of the Federal army, arrived at Mr. White's house and laid the grave. On hearing that Mr. White was in the house they entered it and searched for him. He no sooner entered the yard than they began to abuse him, saying they would shoot him because the lieutenant was killed. Mr. White protested that he had had no hand in the skirmish, did not even see it and that he was a peaceable citizen. One of the Federal neighbors, who was present, all confirmed what he said, but to no purpose. They shot at him repeatedly; he tried to get out of the way; they pursued, and at a little distance from the house they murdered him. The only son of his mother, and she a widow, were the only persons who were left standing and escaped it, together with all contained there. They even

three back into the fire a few things which the servants attempted to save.

The Yankees next went to Squire Eli's, whose dwelling they burned to the ground, and at the same time destroyed his trunks, and appropriating a part of his clothing and other articles, and burning their contents. They arrested Squire Eli, Squire G. and Dr. C. all of whom they kept in duress vile till about 9 p.m., releasing them after taking them a few miles toward Memphis. They took off two of Squire H.'s negroes, who had dug the grave.

At Memphis, where they were, another party from the same party, and who had been sent to the jail, took Squire H. to Squire H.'s, where they found him and his neighbor G. sitting quietly together by the light of the moon, talking over the events of the day. They were exceedingly abusive to these two gentlemen; imbrued their sewing knives in the blood of the negroes, and then used them to inflict the most atrocious wounds upon the negroes.

Each are the deeds of a government which boasts of its civilization! Such acts of officers who claim the title of gentlemen! Such the means by which the y propose to restore the Union!

From Cumberland Gap—Supposed Engagement with the Retreating Enemy.

KNOXVILLE, Sept. 22.—A courier brings intelligence from Cumberland Gap that Gen. Stevenson is pressing on the rear of the Federals, under Morgan.

Cannoeing was heard this morning in the direction of Manchester, and it is supposed he has engaged the

WENT STRAIGHT TO BED DONE WITH THEM?—A gentleman who reached this city yesterday afternoon says that in the latter part of Saturday last, Gen. Jackson re-captured about 300 Yankees who were previous, captured and paroled at Harper's Ferry. If this be true, it is only another instance of Yankee disregard for the mores of civilized warfare. We hope, if such is the fact, that they will receive such treatment as will teach them respect for a parole of honor. —Richmond Dispatch.